



Newsletter Volume 4 – No 6. May 2013.

Opening Comment: - Another year and another successful reunion held in ‘Sunny Bournemouth’ where the weather was fortunately not too unkind to us; though there was quite a bit of a chilly breeze at times and the hills were perhaps a little daunting! Barbara and I enjoyed it very much and the time seemed to just flash by. We had the pleasurable company of associate member Mrs Pat Howell, (*ex-Wren and widow of past member George Adamson, an A/B from the 1952/54 commission*). Sadly the numbers from this commission have depleted considerably of late and Pat was disappointed at not being able to meet any of George’s old oppos for a nostalgic chat. It would be rather nice if any shipmate of George got in touch with Pat with a view to exchanging memories of him.

There was one small but none-the-less rather unpleasant incident during the weekend, when a member made a most inappropriate remark to another member’s lady who really felt insulted! The committee have voiced their disapproval of this and wish it to be known that such behaviour will not be tolerated in any way whatsoever, with membership possibly terminated!

Secretary’s Piece: - What a great weekend that was and I believe everyone enjoyed it. I would like to say thanks to all, especially the committee, for their help and guidance in arranging this reunion. The standard of the hotel was good and they looked after us quite well. Brien did a sterling job as stand-in chairman and gave me a lot of good advice and David (*Raffle King*) Maynard was always there to help; last but not least thanks to Terry who has put up with all my phone calls and e-mails. A big “Thank You” is deserved by Frank and Leah Hawkes for organising a splendid Church Service.

The 2014 reunion was discussed and put to the vote at the AGM and it was agreed that the next event would be held in Babbacombe at the Anchorage Hotel. The hotel has plenty of rooms, but do not leave your booking until the last minute in order not to be disappointed. A visit to the White Ensign Club by coach is being organised for the Saturday, this will include a very appetising snack lunch the cost of which will be advised in the next letter.

Date – Friday 2nd to Monday 5th May 2014, a week later than expected due to hotel being booked out on our usual weekend due to the hotels existing programme. A booking form is printed on the bottom half of page four; just cut it off and submit, but do not put it to one side and forget it!

Membership: - My apologies for being a bit slow in replying to new members, and if any member has a query or request, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Cliff.

Treasurer's Report: - We had a very enjoyable weekend in Bournemouth. The raffle and sale of prints raised £225, while a separate raffle – ***a prize donated by the hotel and won by Mr & Mrs Arthur Lakin*** – raised £64; this has been forwarded to “Blind veterans UK”, formerly St Dunstan’s. A timely reminder re subs, these are now due for those who do not pay by standing order and remain at £5 for the year.

Andrea.

Reunion Quiz Report: - The Sunday afternoon event was well attended and apparently enjoyed by all who took part; my thanks to all who came along. Perhaps it was the bracing Bournemouth air that made all participants do so well? The 20-faces page proved easier than anticipated with the outright winners once again Andrea’s & Helen’s team, winning by just half a point; well done! The first letter of the answers, as usual, to the General Knowledge paper constituted an anagram – PERISCOPIC – this was solved at the same time by Lyn Barlow & Wally Bartlett; their prize a shared packet of Jaffa Cakes. As usual Rosemary was kept busy marking the papers, keeping score and making sure I kept to the right path. Finally, they all went home with the knowledge that a ‘Dockyard Tortoise’ is a ‘Tiddy Oggie’!

John Wyeth.

New Members: - (1) Mr Alan Berwick, ME 1 1959/60.

(2). Mr Dudley Baines,

Crossed the Bar: - 1. Joe Denham, Quarterdeck A/B and B Turret crew-member died after a short illness, aged 81 on the 3rd February this year and his funeral was held at the crematorium at Loughborough on the 14th of that month. Unfortunately this news did not arrive until a little too late for the last newsletter. He married Mavis, a Wren in 1955 and they had a son called Steven. On demob from the navy, Joe joined the TAVR and attained the rank of Corporal. For some 20 years Joe coached his village Junior Football team.

C30 Surfers: - The following contact was made to us via our website, coming from the daughter of an ex first commission member and obviously one of the men from the RNZ Navy contingent; perhaps someone can come in on this?

“I found your website whilst searching for information on my father Brian Dunscomb Bridge, who served in HMS Ceylon during WW2. At his funeral – 5 years ago - the RSA spoke about him; he was apparently in “Radar”. The only other information they gave me was his official number - NZ 7298 (RNZN number). In the Bridge family book, it mentions that he served in both the RN and the NZ Navy. I haven't been able to find any records in NZ about his time in the navy, and his sister said that he only wrote to his mother who never told her anything about what or where Brian was during the war.

He spoke little of his experiences - ***I wish I had asked more*** - but like many men he kept that part of his life a secret. Two of his grandsons are presently doing a project on the ANZACs, and I would have liked to be able to tell them more! We have various old photos of the Ceylon - some taken in Singapore at the signing of the treaty to end the war in that region. He attended a reunion in Singapore some years ago, which I believe was in relation to the 1945 signing; again he said very little about it.

Can you help? I really have no information to use to try and trace him through the Royal Navy.

Ron Boniface.

A Couple of ‘Smile-Raisers from Brien: -

A Scottish lady went to the local newspaper office to publish an obituary for her recently deceased husband. The editor informed her that the charge was 50P per word.

She paused, reflected and then said, "Well then, let it read - Angus McPherson died".

Amused at the woman's thrift, the Editor told her that there was a seven letter minimum for all obituaries. She thought it over for a few seconds then said, "In that case, let it read - Angus McPherson died. Golf clubs for sale".

A lorry driver in Essex stopped at a red light and a blonde in her car pulled up alongside. She jumped out of her car, ran round to his cab and knocked on the door. The driver lowered the window and she said, "Hi my name is Sharon and some of your load is falling off your lorry".

The driver ignored her and proceeded on his way and a little later stopped for another red light with the girl again catching him up. She again jumped out and went to his cab door and knocked. The driver lowered his window and says once again, "Hi my name is Sharon and you *really* are losing some of the load off your lorry. The driver again ignores her and when the lights go green he revs up and races down to the next set of lights. On stopping this time, he hurriedly got out of his truck, ran back to the blonde, knocked on her window and as she lowers it, says to her, "Hi my name is Kevin and I am gritting the road"!

I think perhaps that this is it once more and I do not have much more to add to that submitted by your committee except to say that I hope that the decision to reunite in Babbacombe next year is to everyone's approval. I have seen the hotel and what I saw left me impressed, and to give those of you who remember the Trecarn some idea of the locality, the Anchorage it is situated quite nearby; so see you there!

Yours aye,

Terry.

Written & Produced by Terry Randall ('50/'52)

Printed by 'Print Room' D E K Graphics, Chandlers Ford SO53 2FZ.

Your Latest Contacts List.

PRESIDENT.	Lt/Cdr David M Scott RN.
VICE PRESIDENT	Brien Harrison.
CHAIRMAN.	<i>Position vacant</i> - due to Tony standing down and no volunteers!
VICE CHAIRMAN.	<i>Position vacant</i> - no volunteers!.
SECRETARY.	Cliff Pell.
TREASURER.	Andrea Maynard.
COMMITTEE:	
	Terry Randall.
	Ron Boniface.
	Frank Hawkes.
	John Wyeth

Anchorage Hotel – Babbacombe

Aveland Road, Cary Park. Babbacombe Torquay
TQ1 3PT

Tel 01803 326175

Booking Form

HMS Ceylon Reunion Weekend

Friday 2nd May to Monday 5th May 2014

3 Nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast pp	£101.50
2 Nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast pp	£74.00
1 Night Dinner Bed & Breakfast pp	£45.00
Gala Dinner Only pp	£18.00

NAME

Address

Rooms Single: Double: Twin;

Dietary Needs; Special requests;

Deposit £20 pp Non Refundable

Cancellation Policy:

Cancel within 0 – 7 days prior to arrival - 100% Accommodation Charge

Cancel within 8 – 28 days prior to arrival - 50% Accommodation Charge

Please note that Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the Hotel or in
Hotel Grounds